

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ITF-05 AID-05 IO-10 /087 W

----- 066738

R 081105Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3698

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CINCPAC

CDR USSAG NKP

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, LA

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF MAY 7 CABINET MEETING

REF: VIENTIANE 3097

1. AT WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE MAY 8 GOVERNMENT (PGNU) SPOKESMAN, OUDAY SOUVANNAVONG, STATED THAT LAO CABINET MET FOR THREE HOURS MAY 7 WITH SOUVANNA PHOUMA PRESIDING. FOLLOWING ISSUES WERE RAISED:

2. MILITARY SITUATION: CABINET DECIDED TO SEND JOINT CENTRAL COMMISSION TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT (JCCIA) REPS TO VANG VIDYG TO MEDIATE SITUATION THERE. OUDAY ADDED THAT REPS DEPARTED VIENTIANE MAY 8 AT 0600 HOURS. CABINET FURTHER DECIDED THAT PATHET LAO (PL) TROOPS SHOULD STOP AT PHA TANG (TG 2910) AND NEUTRALIST (FAN) TROOPS IN VANG VIENG SHOULD NOT MOVE NORTH TOWARDS PHA TANG. IN ADDITION. SOUVANNA SENT A TELEGRAM TO SOUPHANOUVONG REQUESTING PL TO ORDER

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PL TROOPS TO CEASE THEIR ADVANCE AND RETURN TO THEIR

ORIGINAL POSITIONS. FINALLY, CABINET MADE UNANIMOUS DECISION THAT THERE SHOULD BE FREE MOVEMENT BETWEEN LUANG PRABANG AND VIENTIANE IN ORDER TO FACILITATE MOVEMENT OF GOODS BETWEEN TWO CAPITALS. (COMMENT: WITH FIGHTING STILL TAKING PLACE IN THE PHA TANG AREA, IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT THIS DECISION CAN BE ENFORCED, AT LEAST IN THE SHORT RUN. IN THE MEANTIME, LP IS SUFFERING FROM A SEVERE SHORTAGE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, FOOD, ETC.)

3. DEMONSTRATIONS IN PAKSE: CABINET DECIDED TO SEND THE MINISTERS AND DEPUTY MINISTERS FROM INTERIOR, ECONOMY AND DEFENSE MINISTRIDP TO PAKSE FULLY EMPOWERED TO DEAL WITH DEMONSTRATIONS THERE (REFTEL). OUDAY ADDED THAT THIS GROUP DEPARTED VIENTIANE MAY 8 AT 0900 HOURS FOR PAKSE.

4. CONSTITUTION DAY CELEBRATIONS: OUDAY STATED THAT CONSTITUTION DAY CELEBRATIONS ON MAY 11 WILL BE SCALED DOWN; SOUVANNA WILL GIVE A SPEECH AND HONOR GUARD WILL BE REVIEWED AND DECORATIONS AWARDED (PRESUMABLY BY KING). NO PARADE OF ANY KIND WILL TAKE PLACE. OUDAY ADDED THAT CABINET REITERATED EXISTING BAN ON DEMONSTRATIONS AND STATED THAT A CIRCULAR TO THIS EFFECT WILL BE ISSUED SHORTLY BY PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE.

5. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL MATTERS: CABINET DECIDED THAT GOVERNMENT WILL BUY ALL SHARES IN VIENTIANE SLAUGHTERHOUSE WHERE DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE TAKEN PLACE RECENTLY (REFTEL). AS FOR TRANSPORTATION, UNTIL BUSES ARRIVE, GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO USE MEDIUM-SIZED BUSES TO TRANSPORT GOVERNMENT WORKERS AND STUDENTS TO WORK/SCHOOL.

6. KING'S VISIT TO VIENG SAY: OUDAY STATED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER PHOUMI VONGVICHIT REPORTED TO CABINET ON KING AND QUEEN'S RECENT VISIT TO VIENG SAY. PHOUMI NOTED THAT POPULATION IN LPF ZONE WAS "OVERWHELMED" BY VISIT.

7. APPEAL FOR CALM: OUDAY STATED PGNU HAS ISSUED AN URGENT APPEAL TO THE POPULATION TO REMAIN CALM AND COOPERATE WITH GOVERNMENT IN ALL FIELDS. HE NOTED THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENFORCE VIENTIANE ACCORD AND ITS PROTOCOL. (COMMENT: SOUVANNA APPARENTLY BROADCAST THE TEXT OF THE CIRCULAR CITED IN PARA 4 ABOVE ON LAO NATIONAL RADIO AT APPROXIMATELY 1300 HOURS TODAY.)

8. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS: ASKED IF CABINET DISCUSSED ASSASSINATION OF BOUN OM AND TWO COMPANIONS, OUDAY REPLIED MATTER DID NOT COME UP. AS FOR COUP RUMORS, OUDAY

COMMENTED THAT GOVERNMENT DOES NOT PAY MUCH ATTENTION TO SUCH RUMORS ANY MORE. HE NOTED THAT APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN ASKED TO CHECK ON THE SOURCE OF SUCH RUMORS AND PUNISH THOSE RESPONSIBLE. ASKED BY VIENTIANE POST REPORTER ABOUT RUMORS OF POSSIBLE RESIGNATIONS BY VIENTIANE SIDE MINISTERS, OUDAY SAID THIS SUBJECT WAS NOT DISCUSSED. HE REFERRED THOSE PRESENT TO THE MAY 6 STATEMENT BY THE VIENTIANE SIDE MINISTERS EXPRESSING THEIR LOYALTY TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND SUPPORT FOR THE VIENTIANE ACCORDS. RESPONDING TO QUESTION FROM REUTERS REPRESENTATIVE, OUDAY REFERRED HIM TO THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR FOR INFORMATION ON RUMORS THAT NO FURTHER VISAS TO LEAVE LAOS WOULD BE ISSUED BEGINNING MAY 15. (COMMENT: APPARENTLY THE PGNU HAS STOPPED ISSUING SUCH VISAS AS OF MAY 8.)  
CHAPMAN

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